

Abstract

A method for operating an internal combustion engine (1) having a fuel-driven combustion motor (5) is proposed, making possible a differentiation of faults in the fuel delivery system. Fuel is delivered under pressure to the combustion motor (5) via a fuel delivery system (10). A pressure decay rate in the fuel delivery system (10) is determined, and a fault is inferred as a function of a comparison of the pressure decay rate with a predefined threshold value.